

Christopher Tumor's letter—A defeatist iunta ?—Action of the new Government—Complex difficulties of new Department—Need for public support for food control—My speech to the House—Gloomy prospect for 1917—Decisions of the War Cabinet—Exceptional measures needed—Food Production Department set up—Lord Lee's appointment—Lee's memorandum—Guaranteed prices approved—Minimum Wages and Wage Boards—Farmers support minimum wage—"War on pheasants—A revolution every half-hour—Policy announced to the Commons—Compulsory good cultivation—Corn Production Bill introduced—Objections to the measure—Mr. Lloyd's criticisms—His letter—A Conservative comment on the letter—National interest must override privilege—Administrative powers and machinery created—Agricultural labour problem—Achieving the impossible—Army demands more men—The risk of a raid—An old bogey—Using prisoners of war for the harvest—The land girl—Women demonstrate their farming skill—Women's Branch set up—Recruiting the Land Army—Value of the Land Girl—Mechanising agriculture—Prejudice against tractors—Help of Mr. Ford—Achievements of farm machinery—Large numbers of implements provided—The fertiliser problem—Supply of nitrates—Phosphates—Achievements of 1917 campaign—Yield of crops—The corner turned—Planning the 1918 campaign—Grass-land to be broken up—Work of County Executives—A land survey—Shortage of ploughmen hampers progress—The programme modified—Mr. Prothero's speech at Darlington—Police ploughmen—Economy in milk production—Meat policy—A great agricultural drive—Lee's report on its success—Interim Report on the campaign—Increase in tillage area—The agricultural returns for 1918—Greatest harvest for sixty years—Weather handicap on harvest—Reaction in 1919—Obstacles to ploughing more grass-land—Opposition to 1919 programme—Defects of emergency organisation—Landowner M.P.s hostile—The strike of the "lunkers"—A defiant landowner—Patriotism and its limits—Lord Lee's resignation—Corn-land reduction in 1919—The allotment movement—Recruiting the urban workers—Cultivation of Lands Order—Brotherhood of the big potato—Achievements of the allotment movement.

2. RATIONING

1325

Shortage of food—stuffs—Controversial unpopular : Mr. Runciman's view—A change of mind—First food control orders—Sir Alfred Butts's rationing scheme—Labour objects to rationing—Lord Devonport takes action—First Orders of the Ministry—My speech at Carnarvon—Appeal to housewives—The King adopts food rations—A further batch of Food Orders—The warning of German experience—Resignation of Lord Devonport. Lord Rhondda appointed—Liquor control—War Cabinet defers State Purchase—Subsequent restrictions outlined—State Purchase urged—Light beer for harvesters

and munition workers—Summary of progress in
brewing restriction
—Improvement in national sobriety—Work of Lord
Rhondda—A
ninepenny loaf—Local Food Control Committees—
Food Com-
missioners appointed—Creditable achievements of
food control
machinery—Further progress of restriction—Measures
to stop food
queues—Individual rationing decided upon—Success of
the system.

3. FEEDING OUR ALLIES . . . „ p.

1341

Responsibility for feeding our Allies—Mr. Hoover's
Memorandum.
International Board proposed—Hoover in the Cabinet
—Inter-Allied
Vol. *Hi* *b*